



STATE OF HAWAII

Governor Linda Lingle

e-NEWSLETTER

Aloha and Welcome from the Governor's Office in Hawai'i
Weekly Wrap-Up: December 1-7, 2007

Quote of the Week

"This special season will be one that you will always remember and that will go down in the books as one of the most remarkable in the University of Hawai'i's long and proud history."

- An excerpt from a proclamation by Governor Lingle and Lt. Governor Aiona, declaring 2007 as the Year of Warriors Football. Read [more](#).

Thought of the Week

"Chief of Staff Barry Fukunaga is ... focused on accomplishing goals through collaboration."

- House Minority Leader, Representative Lynn Finnegan, praising the Governor's appointment of Barry Fukunaga as her chief of staff. Read [more](#).



"Getting this memorial is a godsend. It will help relieve my mind that those boys will not be forgotten."

- USS Oklahoma survivor Garlen Eslick, sharing his delight at the dedication of the USS Oklahoma memorial. Crewman Eslick was on duty when the USS Oklahoma came under attack on December

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

• **Governor Commemorates 66th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Attack.** Read [more](#).

• **Barry Fukunaga Named Chief of Staff.** Read [more](#).

• **Honoring the University of Hawai'i Warriors.** Read [more](#).

• **Happy Chanukah!** Read a [message](#) from Governor Lingle and Lt. Governor Aiona.

Governor Commemorates 66th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Attack, Dedicates USS Oklahoma Memorial



Governor Lingle speaks with Admiral Timothy Keating, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command (left) and Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry at the dedication of the USS Oklahoma Memorial.

7, 1941. Read [more](#).

Upcoming Events

December 8, Governor Lingle will participate in the dedication and blessing of 1,129 acres of land on O`ahu's North Shore, which will be permanently preserved as part of a public-private partnership.

December 9, The Governor will preside over the installation of 2008 officers of the United Chinese Society.

December 11, Governor Lingle will visit the Ka Hale Ho`ala Hou Na Wahine (The Home of Reawakening for Women) transitional facility.

December 12, The Governor will address members and supporters of the Kaua`i Humane Society at the society's annual membership luncheon.

December 13, Governor Lingle will attend the second meeting of the Hawai`i Innovation Council. The Governor formed the council to advise her Administration on innovation-related initiatives throughout the state and to provide recommendations on Hawai`i innovation policies.

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Governor Lingle joined community, government and military leaders at a ceremony to remember those who lost their lives in the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

The Governor laid a wreath on behalf of the State of Hawai`i and honored members of America's 'greatest generation' for their service, sacrifice and commitment to freedom.

"From that terrible day of infamy, our country and the American people showed amazing resolve and fortitude," said Governor Lingle. "We must continue to draw inspiration from that tradition."

Governor Lingle also paid tribute to the brave souls lost that December morning.

"It is our obligation to never forget their sacrifice and that includes taking active steps to remember," she said.

The Governor demonstrates this commitment through her work as a co-chair of the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the memory of these heroes by building a new museum and visitor center for the USS Arizona Memorial.

Governor Lingle thanked Pearl Harbor survivors for their willingness to share their stories about that fateful day, and for keeping history alive.

"Survivors are national treasures, an irreplaceable link to the past and a pivotal point in modern history," she said.

On December 7, Governor Lingle also participated in the dedication of the USS Oklahoma Memorial at Pearl Harbor. The memorial pays tribute to the 429 sailors who lost lives aboard the ship - second in casualties only to the USS Arizona.

"Visitors worldwide come to learn about Pearl Harbor, and now they can learn about the USS Oklahoma and her crew," Governor Lingle said. "The memorial will also teach future generations about their sacrifice and this important part of our past."

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Read a [proclamation](#) from Governor Lingle and Lt. Governor Aiona, proclaiming December 7 as *Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day*.

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Russell.Pang@hawaii.gov**Managing Editor:**Travis.Loop@hawaii.gov**Editor:**Ashley.Cassel@hawaii.gov**Barry Fukunaga Named
Chief of Staff**

Governor Lingle named State Transportation Director Barry Fukunaga (pictured in background) as her chief of staff.

This week, Governor Lingle named state Transportation Director Barry Fukunaga as her chief of staff.

"Barry has a tremendous understanding of state and city government and has proven to be an outstanding manager and leader," said Governor Lingle. "He works openly and collaboratively, and is always focused on improving government efficiency and ultimately enhancing the quality of life for all the people of Hawai`i. Throughout his more than 30 years of public service, he earned the respect of his colleagues and staff. He is a trusted member of my cabinet, and going forward I am confident he will continue to be very effective in implementing my Administration's initiatives."

Fukunaga has served in state government for close to 28 years and in city government for approximately six years. Prior to being appointed transportation director in December 2006, the Governor named Fukunaga as DOT's deputy director of harbors in October 2004.

Fukunaga served in various capacities for 25 years with the state DOT Airports Division, including airports manager, airports operations manager and airports services supervisor. He was named the DOT Manager of the Year in 1994.

Fukunaga is new chief of staff

A top senator praises him as hard-working and straightforward

By B.J. Rogers
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State Transportation Director Barry Fukunaga, who has been at the center of harsh criticism and questioning over his agency's handling of the Hawaii Superferry, has been named the new chief of staff for Gov. Linda Lingle.

Lingle announced Fukunaga's promotion yesterday, effective immediately.

"Barry is a person who has tremendous respect among our entire Cabinet," Lingle said yesterday at a news conference in her office.

Fukunaga replaces Bob Awana, who resigned from the post earlier this year after it was learned he was the target of an extortion plot linked to some of his loved in Asia.

"I certainly look forward to my new role and working with our Cabinet and all the members in it," Fukunaga said.

The appointment does not require Senate confirmation.

Senate President Colleen Hanabusa praised Fukunaga, calling him "hard-working and straightforward."

Fukunaga was confirmed as

FACTS ON FUKUNAGA

Barry Fukunaga was appointed yesterday as Gov. Linda Lingle's chief of staff, effective immediately.

Previous jobs: Director, state Department of Transportation (confirmed March 2007).

Education: Master's degree in public administration, bachelor's degree in business administration, University of Hawaii.

Previous experience: Deputy director, state Department of Transportation (appointed October 2006); director of city Department of Enterprise Services; deputy director of city Department of Environmental Services. Served in various capacities for 25 years with the state Department of Transportation, Airports Division, including airports manager, airports operations manager and airports services supervisor.

transportation director by the Senate 24-0 in March, succeeding Rod Hama, who was not asked back to be part of Lingle's Cabinet in her second term.

The Transportation Department came under fire after the state Supreme Court ruled in August that an environmental assessment should have been performed before the state proceeded with \$60 million in harbor improvements to accommodate the Hawaii Superferry.

Fukunaga and Lingle had said the assessment was waived because they saw no need to subject the ferry to additional steps that are not required of other harbor users.

The issue ultimately was settled in a special session last month, when the Legislature changed the law to allow the ferry to sail.

Brennon Manuka, deputy transportation director in charge of highways, was named acting transportation director.

Lingle's next appointee as permanent director will be subject to Senate confirmation.

Joy Watan, who had been serving as acting chief of staff since Awana's resignation in June, will return to her post as deputy chief of staff, Lingle said.

Star-Bulletin reporter Richard Berman contributed to this report.

Fukunaga is new chief of staff

Honolulu Star-Bulletin, December 3, 2007

Honoring the University of Hawai`i Warriors



Governor Lingle congratulated the 2007 Western Athletic Conference champions, the University of Hawai`i Warriors.

Governor Lingle honored the nation's only undefeated college football team, the University of Hawai`i Warriors, at the Na Koa Football Club's annual Alec Waterhouse Memorial Football Awards Banquet.

The Governor congratulated the players, coaches and staff for a successful season and thanked them for representing the State of Hawai`i with distinction on a national level.

"We're proud of you, not just for your undefeated season, but for the way you did it," Governor Lingle said. "You brought class and sportsmanship to every game and made all Hawai`i residents so proud of your achievements."

Throughout the season, the Warriors played with heart and

believed in themselves, and Hawai`i residents took notice.

"You look at their humility. This is a team that plays together, takes care of each other, and wins for each other," said Waipahu resident Vernice McKinney. "That's more important than the record."

On January 1, the Governor will cheer on the Warriors from the Superdome as they play Georgia in the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

In honor of the Warriors' outstanding season, the best in the University of Hawai`i's long and proud history, the Governor and Lt. Governor have proclaimed 2007 as the *Year of Warriors Football*.

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Read the [proclamation](#).

Crowd thinks Sugar Bowl is sweet

By Robert Shinkins

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It was loud at the University of Hawai'i Stan Sheriff Center yesterday during the filming of the nationally televised Fox Bowl Championship Series pick for Hawai'i to enter a bowl game.

UH coach June Jones and quarterback Colt Brennan gave live interviews in the arena as fans waved in the background, and the entire football team performed their hula in suits and T-shirts before the national audience.

Fans cheered in the arena when the Superdome TV's showed the matchup of the No. 15 Warriors with the No. 4 Georgia Bulldogs at the Aloha Sugar Bowl at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans on New Year's Day.

About 1,000 fans were at the 16,500-seat arena. A female fan held a sign reading to UH quarterback and Heisman Trophy candidate Brennan that said, "Because Colt Inspired," evoking several fans' feelings.

And Brennan, 26, went to the arena because he wanted to champion Brennan, who holds the record for the most touchdowns in a season at 36.

"I think that it was real special what he did, coming back (for another year at UH) and giving up millions," he said.

He also described Hawai'i's winning season and entrance into a BCS bowl as a "moment-a-lifetime" event, probably the "most important thing in Hawai'i's history



University of Hawai'i cheerleaders entertained the crowd yesterday at the Stan Sheriff Center during Fox's live broadcast of the Bowl Championship Series selection special.

also statewide."

Fans went silent enthralled with Brennan's No. 15 and let out a deafening roar as Brennan walked onto the hardwood floor before the national broadcast.

Before saying a word, Brennan pointed to his teammates seated in a section along the court.

"There's about 60 football players over here," he told the crowd before he was drowned out, asking them to

acknowledge his teammates.

For Mike Lee, 45, the announcement that UH would be heading to the Superdome in New Orleans held significance for both him and his son Mocha Lee, a UH basketball player.

"What these Warriors have done will be remembered for a lifetime," said the 1979 UH running back. "We're blessed."

Lee plans to go to the Pelican State to watch the game. "We got tough work ahead but another chance to prove that we're worthy," he said.

Also at the event were fans of Brennan's longest continuous title.

"What a perfect situation for not only Colt, but for the team and for the state of Hawai'i," said Brennan's father, Terry Brennan, who was with his wife, Betty, at the arena. "As far as a priority, (a BCS bowl game) was probably not one of the top things that was on my mind."

Then showing where the younger Brennan might have gotten his acclaimed humility, he dismissed claims that Brennan was the reason UH achieved its first undefeated season.

"I'm not so sure we would have raised a bowl with any of the other quarterbacks," he said.

"We have fun," he added. "Whether it be a soccer game or volleyball game for your daughter or something, it's all fun. It's just great."

Also present, Gov. Linda Lingle proclaimed 2007 the Year of Warriors Football.

[Crowd thinks Sugar Bowl is sweet](#)

Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
December 3, 2007

Governor Supports Hawai`i's Nurses



From left: Violeta Amobit, committee co-chair, Friends of UH Manoa Nursing; Governor Lingle; Dean Mary Boland, UH Manoa School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene; Beth Hoban, committee co-chair, Friends of UH Manoa Nursing; and Jim Nabors, honorary co-chair, Friends of UH Manoa Nursing.

As part of her ongoing support for Hawai`i's nurses, Governor Lingle attended a holiday gala for the Friends of the University of Hawai`i School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene.

The Governor shared her appreciation for nurses' compassion and knowledge, as well as the significant impact they have on Hawai`i residents.

"When you are sick in a hospital and call for help, you hope for a nurse," Governor Lingle said.

To address nursing shortages in Hawai`i and across the country, the UH School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene has several innovative programs, including an intensive 18-month nursing training for people who have a bachelor's degree in another field and coursework for registered nurses who want their bachelor's degree.

This week, Governor Lingle released \$6,837,000 for the design and construction of temporary facilities for nursing programs at UH's Leeward Community College, Hawai`i Community College, Maui Community College and Kaua`i Community College.

"This project will deliver expanded facilities quickly, so that as these colleges begin to expand their programs to address the shortage of nurses in our state, they will have the extra capacity they need," she said.

Nursing programs get \$6.8M boost

Advertiser Staff
Gov. Linda Lingle announced yesterday the release of \$6.837,000 for the design and construction of temporary facilities for nursing programs at University of Hawai'i's Leeward Community College, Hawai'i Community College, Maui Community College and Kauai Community College.
"The demand for registered

nurses in Hawai'i is expected to increase significantly over the next 15 years," Lingle said in a released statement.

The project will provide temporary facilities with classrooms, nursing labs, observation rooms and faculty offices to handle the increases in enrollment that are anticipated as nursing programs at community colleges continue to expand.

[Nursing programs get \\$6.8M boost](#)

Honolulu Advertiser, December 5, 2007

Celebrating 20 Years of the Organ Donor Center of Hawai`i



Dr. Stephen Kula (left) and Eddie Ontai, president of the ODCH Board of Directors (right) presented Dr. Livingston Wong (center) with a plaque recognizing his accomplishments in donation and transplantation.

Governor Lingle honored the Organ Donor Center of Hawai`i's 20 years of sharing the gift of life with Hawai`i residents.

"The Organ Donor Center of Hawai`i is the kind of institution you want to have before you need it," said Governor Lingle. "I appreciate the decades of work, as well as the incredible impact you have on the lives of so many people."

There are 377 people in Hawai`i currently waiting for an organ. The Governor, a registered organ donor, encouraged residents to consider joining the registry - a decision that could one day save a life.

Governor Lingle also recognized the lifetime achievements of Dr. Livingston Wong, who performed the state's first kidney transplant almost 40 years ago, founded the Emergency Medical System in the early 1970s and was instrumental in the establishment of the Organ Donor Center of Hawai`i 20 years ago.

"Dr. Wong's work and life are an inspiration and model to us all,"

said Governor Lingle.



GOVERNOR'S WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS

Recorded by
Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Airing Statewide beginning
Saturday, December 8

Hawai`i's College Savings Program

Preparing our students for higher education is a top priority of our Administration. By launching Hawai`i 529 - Hawai`i's College Savings Program, we are helping families plan for the financial burden of a college education.

On behalf of Governor Lingle, I announced this week that our Administration is partnering with the Department of Education and the Hawai`i Association of Independent Schools to enhance the state's college savings plan.

Investment earnings under this new plan are exempt from federal and state income taxes.

Hawai`i's college savings program allows parents to plan early for the cost of their children's college education and to make prudent investments today to benefit their children and grandchildren tomorrow.

To learn more about the Hawai`i 529 program, visit www.hi529.com.

Department of the Week

Human Services



Lt. Governor Aiona and Lillian Koller, Human Services Director (left) presented a check to Susan Murray, chair of the Health Care Association of Hawai'i.

As part of the Lingle-Aiona Administration's ongoing commitment to finding innovative solutions to ease public and private hospitals' financial burden of treating uninsured patients, Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr. and Department of Human Services (DHS) Director Lillian Koller distributed \$14,432,000 in new federal funding.

"The Lingle-Aiona Administration recognizes the critical role of Hawai'i's public and private hospitals in maintaining a safety net for uninsured patients," Koller said. "These federal funds will help ensure that our hospitals continue to provide quality care for all the people of Hawai'i, including the neediest among us."

Of the \$14,432,000 DHS secured from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a total of \$7.5 million went to 16 private hospitals to help cover their costs of treating uninsured patients during the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years. The remaining \$6.932 million went to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation to help public hospitals.

This marks the third consecutive year the Lingle-Aiona Administration has obtained federal funding to assist public and private hospitals with the cost of providing charity care. In 2005 and 2006, DHS distributed a total of more than \$40.5 million to the hospitals. Prior to 2005, Hawai'i hospitals had not received federal funds for charity healthcare since 1994.

Isle hospitals cash in on \$14.4M check

By Nelson Aikens
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Hawaii hospitals, which dug into their pockets to cover \$143 million last year to unpaid charity care and had debt, have received \$14,432,000 to help cushion their losses.

A check for that amount in federal funding was presented to the state and private hospitals yesterday by Lt. Gov. James "Duke" Aiona and state Human Services Director Lili-ian Koller.

"The whole thrust of this is to help us ease our financial burden in treating uninsured patients because they are basically uncompensated care," said Richard Meinen, president and chief executive officer of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, where the check was presented.

Costs for charity care and had debt rose about \$18 million from 2005 to 2006, according to an accounting recently issued by Ernst & Young and the Hawaii Health Information Corp.



"The whole thrust of this is to help us ease our financial burden in treating uninsured patients because they are basically uncompensated care."

Richard Meinen
President and chief executive, Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Unsubsidized costs for charity care and had debt totaled \$108.3 million from 2002 to 2006, the study reported.

Overall, it said, hospital costs last year exceeded patient revenues by \$158 million.

Meinen said the \$14.4 million in federal dollars provided by the state administration "very timely when the flow a little bit" for hospital losses on charity care and had debt, which increase every year.

"It can make the difference between a facility going under and staying open," he said.

This is the third year the hospitals have received federal funds to help defray costs for uninsured patients, but our award was for two years, Meinen said.

"For years, we never got any of these kinds of federal dollars from administrations," he said. No federal money for charity health care was provided between 1984 and 2005. In 2005 and 2006, the Department of Human Services distributed more than \$48.5 million to the hospitals.

Meinen credited Gov. Linda Lingle's administration and especially Koller for efforts in fighting to bring in additional dollars.

Koller said the administration "recognizes the critical role of Hawaii's public and private hospitals in maintaining a safety net for uninsured patients."

These federal funds will help ensure that our hospitals continue to provide quality

care for all the people of Hawaii, including the neediest among us," she said.

Of the \$14,432,000, \$7.5 million is divided among 16 private hospitals for uninsured patient care in the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years. The balance, \$6,932,000, goes to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation for public hospitals.

The major hospital allocations include the Queen's Medical Center, \$2,801,750; Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children, \$1,691,000; St. Francis & Hospital, \$418,500; Hawaii Medical Center East, \$258,500; Hawaii Medical Center West, \$201,750; Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, \$154,500; and Kapiolani Medical Center at Pali Momi, \$155,500.

[Isle hospitals cash in on \\$14.4M check](#)

Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
December 5, 2007



Mahalo for your service.



U.S. Navy photo by Senior Chief Mass Communication Specialist Andrew McKaskle.

A Navy diver from Naval Special Warfare Logistics Support conducted Lock Out Training with the nuclear-powered fast-attack submarine USS Hawai`i (SSN 776) for material certification. Material certification allows operators to perform real-world operations anytime, anywhere.

We invite you to submit digital photos of your loved ones who are serving our country in the defense of freedom and liberty around the world. Please e-mail your photos and a brief caption to governor.lingle@hawaii.gov.



In the News

600 crosswalks to get timers

State will spend \$2M as part of plan to cut down on pedestrian fatalities

BY KIM TARDON
Advertiser Staff Writer
The state has announced it will spend \$2 million to install 600

new countdown crosswalk timers at intersections around Oahu by 2012 in an effort to reduce a troubling rash of pedestrian traffic fatalities.

The work will begin with 90 timers along Ala Moana Boulevard from First Street to Fifth Street as soon as reporting is com-

pleted there next spring.

In the first year, 10 out of the state's 40 traffic fatalities have been pedestrians. There were 20 pedestrian deaths last year.

The project is part of \$8.5 million in state and federal money that the department has budgeted for pedestrian safety over the

next two years.

The timers will guide pedestrians across some of the most dangerous intersections in Honolulu. Between 2003 and 2005, there were 10 pedestrian accidents along Ala Moana Boulevard.

Instead of the traditional flashing

hand signal, pedestrians approaching an intersection will see numbers counting down to zero. According to the DOT and the city Department of Transportation Services, pedestrians are not to enter the crosswalk

until the numbers reach zero.

[600 crosswalks to get timers](#)

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